

A NEW SPECIES OF *AGARODES*
(TRICHOPTERA: SERICOSTOMATIDAE) FROM
SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES¹

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Abstract.—A new species, *Agarodes alabamensis*, from coastal Alabama is described and illustrated. The genus now totals ten species, all restricted to eastern North America.

The genus *Agarodes* is restricted to and widespread throughout eastern North America from Canada to Florida (Wiggins, 1977). Nine species are recognized in the genus, with all but *Agarodes distinctus* Ulmer and *Agarodes griseus* Banks restricted to southeastern United States (Ross and Scott, 1974). In Alabama, four species occur: *Agarodes crassicornis* (Walker) and *Agarodes libalis* Ross and Scott on the Coastal Plain; *A. griseus* Banks at scattered localities in northern Alabama; and *Agarodes stannardi* which is restricted to a small area in the northwestern portion of the state. To this list is added an apparently rare new species, *Agarodes alabamensis*, known only from the type locality on the Coastal Plain. As is typical for the genus, this new species was collected with a black-light along a small sand-bottom stream.

Type material will be deposited at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Terminology follows that of Schmid (1980) and Ross and Scott (1974).

Agarodes alabamensis Harris,

NEW SPECIES

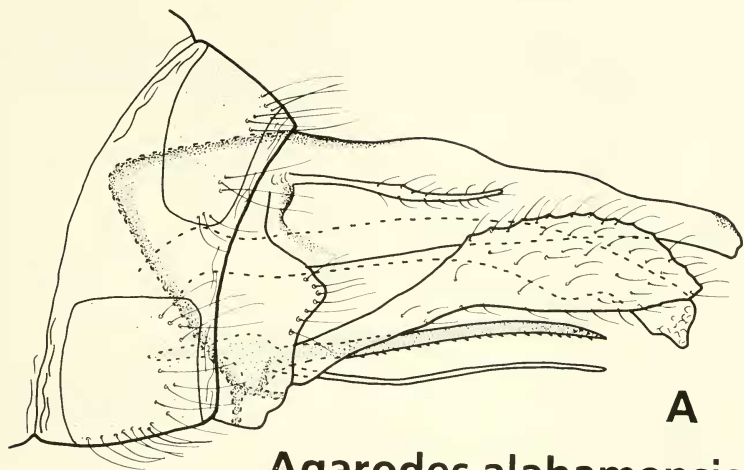
Fig. 1

Diagnosis.—In many respects this species resembles *Agarodes tetron* (Ross) but differs

in the rounded apex of segment X and in the elongate mesal branch on the basomesal process of the inferior appendage. In addition, *A. alabamensis* is a Coastal Plain inhabitant, while *A. tetron* occurs in the montane regions of northern Georgia and North Carolina.

Male.—Length 17–19 mm. Body, legs and head light brown to yellow. Antennae brown, with 43 segments, the scape small and trap-ezoidal. Labial palpus 1.3 mm long; maxillary palpus 0.8 mm in length, oblong, bearing 2 narrow inner processes. Wings light brown; forewing with extensive peg-like setae in anal region and posteriorly along M and Cu veins. Abdominal segment IX annular. Segment X elongate and narrow in dorsal view, divided into lateral plates diverging apically; in lateral view sinuate dorsally and lightly sclerotized, distally rounded to blunt apex, lacking ventral projection. Preanal appendage narrow and elongate, extending nearly half length tergum X, setose distal portion curving dorsad in lateral view; in dorsal view somewhat spatulate distally and curving mesad. Inferior appendages slender anteriorly, widening posteriorly in lateral view; in ventral view united basally, slender with irregular margins, basomesal processes divided basally. Mesal processes over $\frac{3}{4}$ length of inferior appendages, slender and narrowing to acute apex, distally serrate and diverging; lateral processes thin

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Agarodes alabamensis

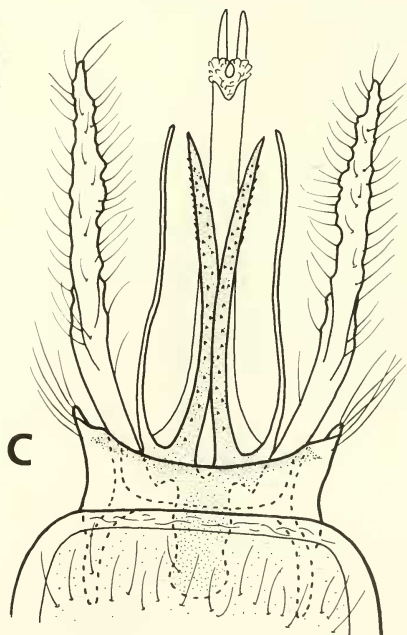
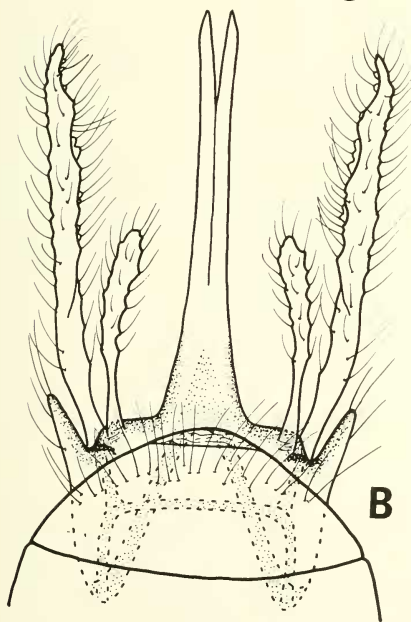


Fig. 1. *Agarodes alabamensis* n. sp., male genitalia. A, Lateral view. B, Dorsal view. C, Ventral view.

and nearly equal in length to mesal processes. Phallus long and generally cylindrical, membranous apically with acute apex, ventral notch subapically.

Female.—Unknown.

Immatures.—Unknown.

Etymology.—Latin: of Alabama.

Holotype.—Alabama, Clarke County, Fishers Creek at unmarked Co. Rd., 1 mile SW Whatley (R3E T8N S25), 27 April 1985, S. C. Harris.

Paratype.—Alabama, same as above, 1 ♂.

Distribution.—*Agarodes alabamensis* is known only from the type locality and appears to be rare in coastal Alabama. Extensive black-light trapping throughout Clarke County and adjacent counties has not yielded any additional specimens. Repeated black-light collecting along Fishers Creek at several locations in May 1985, early and late April 1986, and May 1986 found no additional material. As well, on four occasions an extensive search for *Agarodes* larvae in Fishers Creek and its tributaries was unsuccessful.

Discussion.—*Agarodes alabamensis* is a member of the subgenus *Agarodes* Banks (Ross and Wallace, 1974) based on the small antennal scape and slender mesal lobe of the maxillary palp. The key to *Agarodes* males in Ross and Scott (1974) is amended as follows to accommodate the new species.

7. Mesal branch of basomesal process short, situated apically, much as in Fig. 3 *griseus*

- Mesal branch of basomesal process long, situated basally 7A
- 7A. Mesal branch of basomesal process about half as long as lateral branch, apex of segment X with ventral projection (Ross, 1948, Fig. 4) *tetron*
- Mesal branch of basomesal process over half as long as lateral branch, apex of segment X without ventral projection *alabamensis*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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